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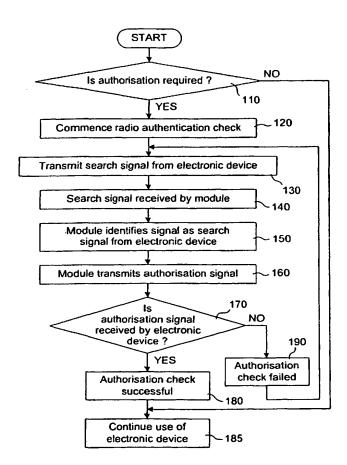
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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): NEC CORPORATION [JP/JP]; 7-1, Shiba 5-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 1088001 (JP).

- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): PARKER, John [GB/GB]; c/o NEC Technologies (UK) Ltd., Level 3, The Imperium, Imperial Way, Reading, Berkshire RG20TD (GB).
- (74) Agents: MIYAZAKI, Teruo et al.; 8th Floor, 16th Kowa Bldg., 9-20, Akasaka I-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 1070052 (JP).
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(54) Title: APPARATUS FOR AUTHORISING ACCESS TO AN ELECTRONIC DEVICE



(57) Abstract: Commonly used mobile devices provide authenticated access to the device through the manual entry of personal identification numbers (PINs). Third generation devices will potentially contain a large amount of user sensitive data and there is a need for increased security on the devices to prevent unauthorised access. However, increasing the number of manually entered PINs or passwords is inconvenient to the user. These problems are overcome providing authorisation to access the electronic device via a series of radio signals between the electronic device and a radio module which is paired to the device. The module is carried separately from the device and, when authorisation is required, the device automatically attempts to detect the presence of the radio module. In order to detect the presence of the module, the device transmits a search signal to the module (130). The radio module receives (140) the search signal from the device and transmits an authorisation signal in response On receiving (170) the authorisation signal the electronic device provides the user with access to the restricted application (185). If the electronic device does not receive an authorisation signal from the module, access to the electronic device is initially refused and the user may be required to provide further authorisation, for example using a PIN, in order to access the restricted application.

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a. classification of subject matter IPC 7 G06F1/00 H04M1/725 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 G06F H04M Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ' Relevant to claim No. US 6 515 575 B1 (KATAOKA KENJI) 4 February 2003 (2003-02-04) X 1-31 column 3, line 18 - column 4, line 17 column 4, line 45 - column 6, line 41 column 7, line 16 - line 62 figures 2-5 US 6 070 240 A (XYDIS THOMAS G) 30 May 2000 (2000-05-30) 1-31 Χ column 2, line 23 - line 48; figures 2-5 column 3, line 18 - column 4, line 10 column 4, line 45 - column 5, line 28 figures 2-5 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the involved. "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date daimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 07. 10. 04 1 October 2004 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Straniero, R

Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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